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MYSTERY CHILD WINS SUIT

Camped With Soldiers When a Child in the Vicinity of Mexico

Final settlement has been made in the estate of John Butler, one of the wealthiest inhabitants of Boone county, long known as the King of Blackfoot, and Mrs. Samuel Vantine of Paris, Mo., the lost daughter of Butler, has received from the Probate Court, \$7,000 as her share.

A suit to break her father's will, which made no mention of her, and claiming one-sixth of Butler's death at \$150,000 filed by Mrs. Vantine after a long investigation to establish her identity, has been fought thru the courts since 1908.

Evidence taken in court revealed that Mrs. Vantine was the daughter of Jane Gordon, Butler's first wife, whom he married shortly before the Civil War. Butler, in a fit of anger, caused by his finding a mouse in a jar of milk, drove his wife from his log cabin home and a few weeks later, while she was staying with a family in Sturgeon, Mo., a baby girl, now Mrs. Vantine, was born to her. She was afraid to return to her husband, and wandered about making a living for her baby and herself as best she could, taking shelter for a time with an army camp, at which time the baby became the pet of the regiment.

She gave the child to Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Wetmore of Paris, Mo., who adopted her. In the meantime, her husband had left his other children with relatives and joined the army. When he returned after the war, he could find no trace of his wife, and married again without obtaining a divorce.

The second wife lived only a few years. Butler married again. He divorced his third wife and made the fourth venture, this time marrying a Roman Catholic, who succeeded in converting him to her faith. Religion had been one of his chief differences with his first wife, for he was an extreme Protestant and she was a devout Catholic.

The proof in identifying Jane Gordon, by which name she was always known after Butler drove her away, as the mother of Mrs. Vantine, was, by a scar on her arm, a mark resulting from a wound suffered when Butler knocked her into a fire place and her arm was severely burned. Mrs. Wetmore testified that the mother of her foster child had such a scar.

There was a tragic instance in the life of the child when a man was murdered because her foster-parents refused to give her back to her mother.

Two soldiers went to Wetmore's carriage factory to kill him, but shot a man named Workman, who happened to be there, by mistake.

There will be a pie supper at the Dye school house Saturday night, Oct. 3rd. Everyone cordially invited.

Mrs. Allie Luckie is in a hospital in St. Louis for treatment.

Punch Cason, colored, caught a fine of \$300 and costs in the City Court last week for violating the local option law.

Some Views and Interviews

C. H. Sharp: I have a farm one mile south of Santa Fe. My little son, Eugene, is my main helper. I think Eugene will stick to the farm all right; he likes it and that's the good point about it.

Henry Youngblood: My health has not been good for quite a while. Have quit all medicines, pastries and biscuits and stick to Graham bread; drink more H₂O than I ever did—none of us ever drink too much of that. Am putting up a strong fight and expect to be about in this world a good while yet.

L. W. Jones: I have sold out my interests at Santa Fe and have moved to Mexico again. You can't keep me away from this good town.

Philip Shire: Tell that fellow Hook of the Auxvasse Review that the fabrication is his my young frogs are not dead; they're coming fine. The drouth didn't hurt them and these fall rains are warranted to grow wool on their backs a yard wide.

J. S. Wilson: I've taken one of Audrain's good women, Mrs. P. D. Wilkins, for my wife. We will live at Warsaw, Mo., where I have a farm and other good property. I was reared here and shall always hold a warm place in my heart for Audrain. Wilson township was named for my grandfather. My brother, S. W. Wilson, lives southeast of Mexico.

J. B. Shroll: Formerly from Audrain my home for 20 years has been at Fitzgerald, Georgia. I am 85 years young and like the South. The race question with us is ever a stirring issue. The negroes, except a very few, do not vote any more in Southern States. The whites control registration and have the books on them.

O. A. Edson: Mrs. Edson and I are alone on the farm now. Our daughter, Emma, has been with the Busy Bee in Mexico for three years and Frank Edson is a street car conductor in St. Louis. We enjoy the visits of the Message every week; it is the best paper of them all.

OAKLAND STOCK FARM.

Weather very fine, everything growing.

The ladies of Trinity church cleared at the Black sale \$17.95. Frank Summers came home the 19th on business and returned to Central college, Fayette, the 21st.

Mr. and Mrs. Walker of Martinsburg and Mrs. Hughs of Mexico visited F. T. Harris' family Wednesday.

J. J. Quinlan and family enjoyed a visit last week from the only relative he has in this country, beside brothers and sisters, Mrs. Smith of New York.

Mrs. John Ricker and Mrs. Hattie McHugh visited Cliff Harris and wife last Wednesday.

Silo filling is thru with in this vicinity; farmers are getting ready to sow wheat.

MRS. WHITE DEAD

Mrs. Theresa White, 71 years old, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. D. W. Dearing, last Friday. The body was taken to Bellflower for burial.

Bess Bright, a negress, was fined \$300 in the City Court last Thursday for bootlegging.

Rev. F. A. Andrews, pastor of the Santa Fe Christian church, paid the Message a pleasant call Monday.

HAPPENINGS ADJOINING AUDRAIN

Alex Wernert of Louisiana is home from the county fairs with his race horses. The horses are now sick with "shipping fever," it is said. Usually it is the owners of the horses who are sick.

There is a scarcity of school teachers in Lincoln county. A number of schools not yet opened; directors not able to secure teachers.

Miss Lou Pollard at Richmond donated a drinking fountain to the Baptist church. During the late hot weather it was used appreciably.

Nellie Harris of Curryville is a plucky school girl. She stuck a nail in her foot, from which she suffered intensely, but her friends brought her to school in a conveyance until she succeeded in getting crutches so that she could go to school on them.

Lake Williams, a colored man, driving a freight wagon at Shamrock, fell in with a band of Gypsies and some of them got on his wagon with him and—fore he knew it—picked his pocket of \$35. Gypsies arrested and the negro's money returned except \$5. He paid for his experience and the officers wanted a little rake-off also.

A serious accident occurred at C. A. Bibb's near Watson, near Bowling Green, recently, the pole to which was attached a heavy dinner bell falling and striking Irene, their 13-year-old daughter, rendering her unconscious and breaking her right arm in two places.

A LIVE CHURCH

Union Christian Church at Rush Hill is one of the very live religious organizations of the county. They had a very happy revival a few months ago, and they are now talking of building a new house of worship.

By invitation J. C. Mundy and Judge Alex Carter addressed this congregation Sunday afternoon. A representative of the Message was present, and we enjoyed the speeches and visit very much. Rev. F. W. Leonard is the pastor. They have a live Bible school; 78 enrolled last Sunday. Will Doolin is superintendent. H. Armstrong is his secretary; L. H. Sims, treasurer; Miss Grace Knoebel, organist. The teachers are: Val Erdel, Mrs. H. Armstrong, Mrs. T. J. Lower, Pauline Miller, Mrs. L. F. Perry and Philip Melahn.

This church and its teachers believe that the boys and girls who come out from our Sunday schools are the hope of our country.

MR. HANCOCK'S WILL

The will of J. W. Hancock, who died recently near Laddonia, has been filed for probate. The widow gets one-third of the estate and the remainder is left to four sons—Rex, Roy, Romeo and Ray. The two oldest sons, Rex and Ray, are named as executors.

Rev. J. D. Greer, of Mexico, closed a very successful revival meeting at the Middletown Christian church recently. A large number united with the church. Bro. Greer has a lecture he delivers occasionally on "Home Problems, or How to Get Married and Stay Married."

Elmer Cunningham and wife and daughter, and Mrs. G. E. Younger spent the day with Mrs. Fannie Roberts, near Mexico, Sunday. They made a visit at the old Lickridge cemetery also.

CAN ALL YOU CAN CAN

When so much is being written and said about "The woman in the home, and how to keep her there," the consideration of putting back into the home industries which are fast slipping away is not inopportune.

Miss Bab Bell, Woman's Lecturer for the Missouri State Board of Agriculture, urges that the woman in the country in particular can her fruits and vegetables rather than buy these goods canned.

Many women overlook the fact that vegetables and fruits canned fresh from the vines and trees have, as a rule, a better flavor than the common commercially canned product. This is not the only fact worthy of consideration. Counting labor, fuel and all other items which go to make the expense of an article, goods can be canned in the home more cheaply than they can be purchased canned.

There is an annual waste from our gardens and orchards amounting to several millions of dollars. The quantity purchased each year by the average family is about one-fourth of that wasted annually on the average farm. If this waste could be saved, the housewife could not only supply the family with the necessary fruits and vegetables in their very best canned form, but would also net for herself a neat income should she market the over-supply. Farm marketing and home conservation are issues appealing for solution today.

DIED IN MEXICO

While on Visit to Her Daughter Here, Mrs. Taft.

Mrs. Susan M. Tipton, 61 years old, wife of S. P. Tipton of Farber, died in Mexico last Thursday while on a visit to her daughter here, Mrs. E. R. Taft. She was ill about two weeks. The body was shipped to her home in Farber, funeral held at the Methodist church in that city Friday afternoon. Besides the husband she is survived by three daughters—Mrs. E. R. Taft, of Mexico, and Mrs. W. H. Bedler and Miss Freddy Tipton of Farber.

ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING

The annual business meeting of the Santa Fe Christian church will be held Saturday, October 10th, beginning at 10 a. m. Basket dinner at the church. Reports from all departments of the church work. Election of officers. Plans for next year. Roll call of members. Every member of the church is urged to attend this meeting. Any member who cannot be present is asked to send a message expressing his or her continued interest in the work of the congregation.

J. C. Jesse and family, who spent the summer in this county among relatives, have gone back to Artesia, N. M. Mr. Jesse has a job with a large grocery and merchandise store there.

J. C. King, the grocer, had large crowds last Friday and Saturday at his Pure Food Show. There were interesting demonstrations and souvenirs given away.

L. F. Austin is in New York with a car of poultry.

RUSH HILL

Mrs. Eckler Dead—Judge Carter's Speech—Live Stock Notes

Rush Hill, Mo., Sept. 28.—Jim Diggs filled his silo last week. Stored 120 acres of corn therein. Lute Diggs filled his new silo.

A large acreage of wheat is being sown. Chas. Maxwell will sow 80 acres, Homer Anderson 80 acres, Dick Thomas 60 acres, Henry Stuart 100 acres, and F. S. Norris 100 acres.

J. R. Thomas made his cane crop up into molasses and sold the sweetness out to his neighbors as fast as it came from the mill.

J. C. and C. E. Maxwell loaded two ears of wheat last week. J. P. Harper shipped a load of hogs. Joe Mongler received a car of cattle from St. Louis which he will put on feed. C. E. Maxwell has a car of cows and heifers on feed. Lute Diggs is feeding 122 steers. Jim Diggs has 150 cattle on feed. R. P. Brown has 200 cattle on feed. Jack Brown is feeding 150 cattle.

R. P. Brown has finished filling two silos. Jack Brown filled two silos. H. C. Beckman has a new tile silo, filled with feed. Otto Erlick has a new tile silo, filled. Erisman Bros. filled their silo and are buying calves to feed.

Ed Crooks has finished drilling a deep well on his farm. Will drill one on Dr. W. E. Cornett's farm. Completed one for Azell Bros. Went down 165 feet, and there is a flow of 10 gallons of water per minute.

A. Mudd is planning to move to Joplin. F. I. Hagan says he will have a sale and thinks he will move to California. Mrs. Martin of Amanda, Cal., is visiting her daughter here, Mrs. Otto Ackerman. Mrs. Bradley, also of California, is visiting her brother, Harry Armstrong, and other relatives. Mrs. Albert Bradley, also of the Golden State, is visiting C. H. Bradley's family. Mrs. Allen is very ill. Born to Harvey Summers and wife, last Wednesday, a daughter. Ed. Crooks' mule team ran away and Mr. Crooks and his wife were thrown from the wagon. Ed. has since had a lame foot and is sporting a cane. Chas. Keplinger and wife have moved here from St. Louis. Mr. Keplinger is a carpenter and contractor. He is a very useful fellow. He is a graduate of a Bible Training school in St. Louis and has organized an interesting class here.

Mrs. Eckler, over 80 years old, died Saturday night at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Wilbur Shoup, where she had made her home for several years.

Judge Alex Carter made a speech here Sunday afternoon favoring the County Unit Law. Many say it was the best argument against the saloon they ever heard.

Brown-Donnelly Wedding

Mr. Harry Winfield Brown, a popular C. & A. conductor, and Miss Mayme Donnelly, the charming daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Donnelly, were married last evening at the home of Father J. J. Dillon, the officiating minister. The happy couple have the congratulations of a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

Judge W. W. Fry, Jr., of this city, was re-elected a member of the General Council, from the 11th General Judicial District, at the State Bar Association in St. Louis last week.

SAID OF FORMER MEXICO MAN

Dr. H. M. Hamill, of Nashville, Tenn., was elected president of the International Sunday School Association at the World's Sunday School Convention held in Chicago this summer. Prof. Hamill was formerly at the head of schools in Mexico and Louisiana. This is an excerpt from a letter written by Mrs. Sallie Milroy Cary of Chicago to a schoolmate at Louisiana, Mo.:

"I had the pleasure this summer of meeting our old superintendent, H. M. Hamill. We stood in line with five thousand Sunday school men. The bands played 'Onward, Christian Soldiers' during the march and when reaching the head of the line where stood Rev. Hamill, the bands played Dixie in compliment to the old Confederate soldier, who is chaplain general of the Confederate Veterans, and on that day elected president of the International Sunday School Convention—the cheering and applause were deafening. When it all subsided I was glad to take his hand and recall memories of the old Louisiana school and he seemed equally glad to see me."

Judge C. C. Bledsoe is sowing 120 acres of wheat on his farm near Thompson.

Mrs. S. P. Carter, north of Mexico, is visiting Ed. Patterson and wife at Keokuk, Iowa.

Miss Mildred Stephens, the bright young daughter of Jap Stephens, the auctioneer, at Martinsburg, is a student in the Mexico High School.

Will White and Elwood Crump, negroes, plead guilty to petit larceny in the Circuit Court last week. Fined \$10 and costs.

Mr. William Anderson of Mexico and Miss Nettie C. Bickel of Laddonia were united in marriage by Judge W. W. Botts last week.

J. J. F. Johnson got a verdict in the Circuit Court last week for \$221 against J. W. Wooldridge. The controversy was over a car of potatoes.

A sad occurrence took place here Monday morning, remarks the Bowling Green Times. A fellow loaded with a cargo of red liquor that made his legs wobbly, his eyes blurred and his tongue thick, arrived here from Louisiana, bound for the dry territory of Audrain. He was happy in his befuddled condition until he started to walk to the depot, when he, by some unaccountable means, dropped his bottle on the sidewalk and he saw the visions of the sobering-up dram go to waste. He looked wistfully at the contents as it spread out in the dust, gave a sigh and proceeded, mumbling something that would not look well in print. It was a sad moment for him, but he'll get over it—if he stays in dry territory long enough.

Mexico Savings Bank

Capital Stock, \$150,000.00

43rd Year in Business.

W. W. FRY, President.

SAM LOCKE, Cashier.